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STRATA. *n. f.* [The plural of *stratum*, Latin.] Beds; layers. A philosophical term.

The terrestrial matter is disposed into *strata*, or layers, placed one upon another; in like manner as any earthy sediment, settling down from a fluid, will naturally be.

With how much wisdom are the *strata* laid,
Of different weight and of a different kind,
Of fundry forms for fundry ends design'd!

STRATAGEM. *n. f.* [εστρατηγισμός; stratagem, French.]

1. An artifice in war; a trick by which an enemy is deceived.

John Talbot, I did fend for thee,
To tutor thee in stratagems of war.

Should be the father of some stratagem. *Shaksp. Henry IV.*

2. An artifice; a trick by which some advantage is obtained.

Route up your courage, call up all your counsels,
And think on all those stratagems which nature

Keeps ready to encounter sudden dangers.

Those oft are stratagems which errors seem;
Nor is it Homer nods, but we who dream.

STRATIFY. *v. a.* [stratify, Fr. from *stratum*, Lat.] To range in beds or layers. A chymical term.

STRATUM. *n. f.* [Latin.] A bed; a layer. A term of philosophy.

Another was found in a perpendicular fissure of a *stratum* of stone in Langron iron-mine, Cumberland.

Drill'd through the sandy *stratum*, every way
The waters with the sandy *stratum* rise.

STRAW. *n. f.* [sreep, Saxon; stro, Dutch.]

1. The stalk on which corn grows, and from which it is threshed.

I can counterfeit the deep tragedian,
Tremble and start at wagging of a *straw*,

Intending deep suspicion.

Plate in with gold,
And the strong lance of justice hurtles breaks;

Arm it in rags, a pigmy's *straw* doth pierce it.

Apples in hay and *straw* ripened apparently; but the apple in the *straw* more.

My new *straw* hat, that's trimly lin'd with green,
Let Peggy wear.

More light he treads, more tall he seems to rise,
And struts a *straw* breadth nearer to the skies.

2. Any thing proverbially worthless.

Thy arms, thy liberty, beside
All that's on th' outside of thy hide,

Are mine by military law,
Of which I will not bate one *straw*.

'Tis not a *straw* matter whether the main cause be right or wrong.

STRAWBERRY. *n. f.* [fragaria, Latin.] A plant.

Is hath a perennial fibro root: the leaves are veined, growing upon each footstalk; the stalks trail upon the ground: the cup of the flower consists of one leaf, divided into ten equal parts; and expands in form of a star: the flower consists, for the most part, of five leaves, expanded in form of a rose, and having many stamina in the middle, round the base of the ovary: the fruit is globose or oval, and consists of a fleshy cartilaginous pulp, full of protuberances. The species are seven.

The *strawberry* grows underneath the nettle,
And wholesome berries thrive and ripen best,
Neighbour'd by fruit of baler quality.

Content with food, which nature freely bred,
On wildings and on *strawberries* they fed.

Strawberries, by their fragrant smell, seem to be cordial: the seeds obtained by shaking the ripe fruit in Winter, are an excellent remedy against the stone. The juice of *strawberries* and limmons in spring-water is an excellent drink in bilious fevers.

STRAWBERRY TREE. *n. f.* [Carbutus, Latin.]

It is ever green, the leaves roundish and serrated on the edges: the flowers consist of one leaf, and shaped like a pitcher: the fruit is of a fleshy substance, and very like a strawberry; divided into five cells, which contain many small seeds.

STRAWBUILT. *adj.* [straw and built.] Made up of straw.

They on the smoothed plank,
The suburb of their *strawbuilt* citadel,
New rubb'd with balm, expatiate.

STRAWCOLOURED. *adj.* [straw and colour.] Of a light yellow.

I will discharge it in your *strawcoloured* beard.

STRAWWORM. *n. f.* [straw and worm.] A worm bred in straw.

STRAWY. *adj.* [from straw.] Made of straw; consisting of straw.

There the *strawy* Greeks, ripe for his edge,
Fall down before him, like the mower's swath.

In a field of corn, blown upon by the wind, there will appear waves of a colour differing from that of the rest; the wind, by depressing some of the ears, and not others, makes the one reflect more from the lateral and *strawy* parts than the rest.

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TO STRAY. *v. n.* [stray, Danish, to scatter; strabuiare, Italian, to wander.]

1. To wander; to rove.

My eye, descending from the hill, surveys
Where Thames among the wanton valley *strays*.

Lo, the glad gales o'er all her beauties *stray*,
Breathe on her lips, and in her bosom play.

2. To rove out of the way; to range beyond the proper limits.

What grace hath thee now hither brought this way?
Or dost thy feeble feet unwitting hither *stray*?

No: where can I *stray*,
Save back to England? all the world's my way.

Hath not else his eye
Stray'd his affection in unlawful love?

By holy crosses, where she kneeling prays
For happy wedlock hours.

Wand'rst thou within this lucid orb,
And *stray'd* from those fair fields of light above,
Amidst this new creation want'st a guide
To reconduct thy steps?

3. To err; to deviate from the right.

We have erred and *strayed*.

STRAY. *n. f.* [from the verb.]

1. Any creature wandering beyond its limits; any thing lost by wandering.

She hath herself not only well defended,
But taken and impounded as a *stray*.

The king of Scots.

Should I take you for a *stray*,
You must be kept a year and day.

When he has traced his talk through all its wild rambles,
let him bring home his *stray*; not like the lost sheep with joy,
but with tears of penitence.

Seeing him wander about, I took him up for a *stray*.
He cries out, neighbour, hast thou seen a *stray*?

Of bullocks and of heifers past this way?

2. Act of wandering.

I would not from your love make such a *stray*,
To match you where I hate.

STREAK. *n. f.* [sreice, Saxon; streke, Dutch; strica, Ital.]

A line of colour different from that of the ground.

The West yet glimmers with some *streaks* of day;
Now spurs the late traveller apace,
Now gains the timely inn.

What mean those colour'd *streaks* in heav'n,
Disended, as the brow of God appears?

The night comes on, we eager to pursue
'Till the last *streaks* of dying day withdrew.

Ten wildings have I gather'd for my dear;
How ruddy, like your lips, their *streaks* appear!

While the fantastick tulip strives to break
In two-fold beauty, and a parted *streak*.

TO STREAK. *v. a.* [from the noun.]

1. To stripe; to variegate in hues; to dapple.

Mark what Jacob did;
When all the yearlings which were *streak'd* and pied,
Should fall as Jacob's hire.

A mule, admirably *streaked* and dappled with white and black.

To-morrow, ere fresh morning *streaks* the East,
With first approach of light we must be ris'n,
And at our pleasant labour, to reform
Yon flow'ry arbores.

Now let us leave this earth, and lift our eyes
To the large convex of yon azure sky:
Behold it like an ample curtain spread,
Now *streak'd* and glowing with the morning red;

Anon at noon in flaming yellow bright,
And chusing fable for the peaceful night.

2. To stretch. Obsolete.

She lurks in midst of all her den, and *streaks*
From out a ghastly whirlpool all her necks;

Where, glistening round her rock, to fish she falls.

STREAKY. *adj.* [from streak.] Striped; variegated by hues.

When the hoary head is hid in snow,
The life is in the leaf, and still between
The fits of falling snows appears the *streaky* green.

STREAM. *n. f.* [stream, Sax. stream, Islandick; stream, Dut.]

1. A running water; the course of running water; current.

As plays the sun upon the glassy *stream*,
Twinkling another counterfeited beam.

He brought *streams* out of the rock, and caused waters to run down like rivers.

Had their cables of iron chains had any great length, they had been unportable; and, being short, the ships must have sunk at an anchor in any *stream* of weather.

Thus from one common source out *streams* divide;
Ours is the Trojan, yours the Arcadian tide.

Divided interests, while they think't to twine,
Draw like two brooks thy middle *stream* away.

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2. Any thing issuing from a head, and moving forward with continuity of parts.

The breath of the Lord is like a *stream* of brimstone.

You, Drances, never want a *stream* of words.

The *stream* of beneficence hath, by several rivulets which have since fallen into it, wonderfully enlarged its current.

3. Any thing issuing from his life, and the business he hath helmed, must give him a better proclamation.

It is looked upon as infelice for a man to adhere to his own opinion, against the current *stream* of antiquity.

TO STREAM. *v. n.* [stream, Islandick.]

1. To flow; to run in a continuous current.

On all sides round
Streams the black blood, and smokes upon the ground.

2. To flow with a current; to pour out water in a stream; to be overflowed.

Then grateful Greece with *streaming* eyes would raise
Historic marbles to record his praise.

3. To issue forth with continuance.

Now to impartial love, that god most high,
Do my lights *stream*.

TO STREAM. *v. a.* To mark with colours or embroidery in long tracks.

The herald's mantle is *streamed* with gold.

STREAMER. *n. f.* [from stream.] An ensign; a flag; a pennon; any thing flowing loosely from a stock.

With silken *streamers*, the young Phœbus fanning.

The rosy morn began to rise,
And wad'd her sallow *streamer* through the skies.

Brave Rupert from afar appears,
Whose waving *streamers* the glad general knows.

The man of sense his meat devours;
But only smells the peel and flow'rs:

Who leaves the pie, and gnaws the *streamer*.

STREAMY. *adj.* [from stream.]

1. Abounding in running water.

Acadia,
However *streamy* now, adust and dry,
Deny'd the goddess water: where deep Melas,
And rocky Cratis flow, the chariot smok'd
Obscure with rising dust.

2. Flowing with a current.

Before him flaming his enormous shield,
Like the broad sun, illumin'd all the field;

His nodding helm emits a *streamy* ray.

STREET. *n. f.* [sreice, Saxon; straz, German; strada, Spanish and Ital. strada, Danish; street, Dutch; stratum, Lat.]

1. A way, properly a paved way, between two rows of houses.

He led us through fair *streets*; and all the way we went there were gathered people on both sides, standing in a row.

The *streets* are no larger than allies.

When night
Darkens the *streets*, then wander forth the fons
Of Belial, flown with insolence and wine;
Witness the *streets* of Sodom.

The Italians say the ancients always considered the situation of a building, whether it were high or low, in an open square, or in a narrow *street*, and more or less deviated from their rule of art.

When you tattle with some crony servant in the same *street*,
leave your own *street*-door open.

2. Proverbially, a public place.

That there be no leading into captivity, and no complaining in our *streets*.

Our public ways would be so crowded, that we should want *street*-room.

Let us reflect upon what we daily see practised in the world, and can we believe, if an apostle of Christ appeared in our *streets*, he would retract his caution, and command us to be conformed to the world?

STREETWALKER. *n. f.* [street and walk.] A common prostitute that offers herself to sale in the open street.

STRENGTH. *n. f.* [strength, Saxon.]

1. Force; vigour; power of the body.

Thy youth, thy *strength*, thy beauty, which will change
To wither'd, weak, and grey.

Th' insulting Trojan came,
And menad'd us with force, our fleet with flame:

Was it the *strength* of this tongue-valiant lord,
In that black hour, that sav'd you from the sword?

2. Power of endurance; firmness; durability; toughness; hardness.

Not founded on the brittle *strength* of bones.

3. Vigour of any kind; power of any kind.

The allies, after a successful Summer, are too apt, upon the *strength* of it, to neglect their preparations for the ensuing campaign.

4. Power of mind; force of any mental faculty.

Aristotle's large views, acuteness and penetration of thought, and *strength* of judgment, few have equalled.

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He enjoyed the greatest *strength* of good-sense, and the most exquisite taste of politeness.

5. Potency of liquours.

6. Fortification; fortrels.

The rashness of talking should not only be retarded by the guard of our heart, but fenced in by certain *strengths* placed in the mouth.

He thought
This inaccessible high *strength* to have seiz'd.

Betray'd in all his *strengths*, the wood belet;
All instruments, all arts of ruin met.

7. Support; maintenance of power.

What they boded would be a mischief to us, you are providing shall be one of our principal *strengths*.

8. Armament; force; power.

What is his *strength* by land?

Nor was there any other *strength* designed to attend about his highness than one regiment.

9. Persuasive prevalence; argumentative force.

This presupposed, it may then stand very well with *strength* and soundness of reason, thus to answer.

TO STRENGTH. *v. a.* To strengthen. Not used.

TO STRENGTHEN. *v. a.* [from strength.]

1. To make strong.

2. To confirm; to establish.

Let us rise up and build: so they *strengthened* their hands for this work.

Authority is by nothing so much *strengthened* and confirmed as by custom; for no man easily distrusts the things which he and all men have been always bred up to.

There, bold Longinus! all the Nine inspire,
And bless your critic with a poet's fire:

An ardent judge, who, zealous in his trust,
With warmth gives sentence, yet is always just;

Whose own example *strengthens* all his laws,
And is himself that great sublime he draws.

3. To animate; to fix in resolution.

Charge Joshua, and encourage him and *strengthen* him.

4. To make to increase in power or security.

Let noble Warwick, Cobham, and the rest,
With powerful policy *strengthen* themselves.

They fought the *strengthening* of the heathen.

TO STRENGTHEN. *v. n.* To grow strong.

Oh men for flattery and deceit renown'd!
Thus when y' are young ye learn it all like him,
'Till as your years increase, that *strengthen* too,
'T' undo poor maids.

STRENGTHENER. *n. f.* [from strengthen; by contraction.]

1. That which gives strength; that which makes strong.

Garlick is a great *strengthen* of the stomach upon decays of appetite or indigestion.

2. [In medicine.] Strengtheners add to the bulk and firmness of the solids: cordials are such as drive on the vital actions; but these such as confirm the stamina.

STRENGTHLESS. *adj.* [from strength.]

1. Wanting strength; deprived of strength.

Yet are these feet, whose *strengthless* stay is numb,
Unable to support this lump of clay.

As the wretch, whose fever-weak'n'd joints,
Like *strengthless* hinges, buckle under life,
Impatient of his fit, breaks like a fire
Out of his keeper's arms.

2. Wanting potency; weak. Used of liquours.

This liquor must be inflammable or not, and yet subtle and pungent, which may be called spirit; or else *strengthless* or insipid, which may be named phlegm.

STRENUOUS. *adj.* [strenuus, Latin.]

1. Brave; bold; active; valiant.

Nations grown corrupt
Love bondage more than liberty;

Bondage with ease than *strenuous* liberty.

2. Zealous; vehement.

He resolves to be *strenuous* for taking off the test, against the maxims of all wise Christian governments, which always had some established religion, leaving at best a toleration to others.

Citizens within the bills of mortality have been *strenuous* against the church and crown.

STRENUOUSLY. *adv.* [from strenuous.]

1. Vigorously; actively.

Many can use both hands, yet will there divers remain that can *strenuously* make use of neither.

2. Zealously; vehemently; with ardour.

Writers dispute *strenuously* for the liberty of conscience, and inveigh largely against all ecclesiasticks under the name of high church.

STREPEROUS. *adj.* [streps, Latin.] Loud; noisy.

Porta conceives, because in a *streperous* eruption it riseth against fire, it doth therefore resist lightning.